

C H A P.
XLVIII.
Purpose for
which duty is
granted, &c.

IV. And be it enacted, That the said duty is hereby granted to congress for the purpose of discharging the principal and interest of all debts already contracted by them, or which they may hereafter contract during the present war with Great-Britain, on the faith of the United States, and for no other use.

Power to con-
tinue twenty-
five years, &c.

V. And be it enacted, That the power before given to congress, to impose and levy the said duty, shall remain and continue for the term of twenty-five years after peace or truce shall take place between Great-Britain and the United States, and no longer; and if the debt due or to be incurred by the United States during the present war, shall be paid and satisfied before the expiration of the said twenty-five years, then the power given by this act to the United States in congress assembled, to levy the duty aforesaid, shall cease and determine.

When to
commence,
&c.

VI. And be it enacted, That this act shall not be in force before all the United States shall pass laws vesting the United States in congress assembled with power to impose, levy and collect, the said duty, agreeable to the resolve of congress of the third of February, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, for such time and upon such terms as the United States in congress assembled shall accept as a substantial compliance with the resolve aforesaid; and immediately upon such laws being passed, and such acceptance of the United States in congress assembled, this act shall commence and be in force for the term aforesaid.

Faith
pledged, &c.

VII. And be it enacted, That this general assembly do hereby engage and pledge the faith of this state, that if the said duty, imposed and collected in all the states, shall not, within the said twenty-five years, discharge the whole debt due, or to be incurred during the war, with interest thereon, by the United States, that this state will continue the power in the United States in congress assembled, to impose, levy and collect, the said duty, until the said debt shall be fully paid, or otherwise make ample provision, and find other sufficient funds, for the payment by this state of its proportion of the debt of the United States.

C H A P. XLIX.

An ACT in favour of the natural son of captain Edward Edgerly. PR.

C H A P. L.

An ACT to repeal certain duties.

Preamble.

WHEREAS bills of credit, emitted in virtue of the act for sinking the quota required by congress of this state of the bills of credit emitted by congress (commonly known by the appellation of continental state money) to the amount of ninety-eight thousand and seventy pounds eighteen shillings and nine-pence, were put into circulation; and it appears that forty-three thousand five hundred and four pounds five shillings have been brought in and sunk by taxes; and that property of this state, to the amount of thirty-two thousand six hundred and ninety-eight pounds six shillings, have been sold for the redemption of the said bills of credit; and that the tax of a bushel of wheat, or twenty-five pounds of tobacco, for every hundred pounds worth of property in this state, and the duties on marriage and ordinary licences, and on billiard tables, and slaves, will be far more than fully sufficient to sink the balance of the said bills of credit, now in circulation, before the first day of January, seventeen hundred and eighty-six: And whereas this general assembly have, this present session, authorised congress to lay a duty of five *per cent.* on imports,

Duty repeal-
ed, &c.

II. Be it enacted, by the general assembly of Maryland, That the duty imposed by the said act on tobacco and pig-iron exported, shall be and is hereby repealed; and that all duties imposed by the said act on imported articles (except slaves) shall cease and be repealed, after the said duty of five *per cent.* shall take place.

Fines, &c. ap-
propriated, to
be discharged,
&c.

III. And be it enacted, That the fines, forfeitures and amerciaments, including forfeited recognizances, and all forfeitures for treason or felony, appropriated by the said act, shall be discharged, and subject to the disposal of the general assembly; and the intendant of the revenue is hereby directed to take care, that all